


Hawaii Department of Health
Office of Solid Waste Management
Recycled Content Products Survey Fact Sheet

What is Buying Recycled?

The recycling symbol  represents the collection of recyclable materials, as well as the manufacture and use of recycled products. Buying products with recycled content made completely or partially from materials or by-products diverted from landfills, protects the environment and reduces energy consumption through the purchase of environmentally friendly goods.

Products manufactured from recycled and reclaimed materials are identified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in its Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPG) and are known as “CPG items”.

It's the Law!

Buying recycled was originally authorized under **Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)**, which requires federal agencies to “give preference in their purchasing programs to products and practices that conserve and protect natural resources and the environment.”

Executive Order (EO) 13101 was written to improve the federal government’s existing program, among other things encouraging the use of recycled-content products. State and local agencies, and their contractors, are subject to Section 6002 whenever they use \$10,000 or more of federal funds within a current or preceding fiscal year to purchase item(s).

The **Hawaii Procurement Code [Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 103D-1005]** further requires that state and encourages county purchasing agencies to procure products with recycled content, be consistent with federal regulations like EO 13101 and RCRA, and purchase materials that can be recycled or reused.

HRS 342G-43 requires state agencies that conduct their own procurement activities to annually submit progress information on the total amount of paper purchased during the year and the amount of recycled goods purchased during the year compared to non-recycled counterparts.

Why “buy recycled”?

- *Benefit the environment by conserving resources, preventing waste, reducing landfill space, and reducing pollution.*
- *Close the recycling loop by purchasing products made from materials that have been recycled.*
- *Show the State of Hawaii’s commitment to environmental stewardship.*
- *Demonstrate compliance with federal and state regulations.*

Why Must I Complete the Recycled Content Products Survey?

It’s the law and the right thing to do! State government agencies play a major role in the procurement of recycled-content items. Agencies that complete the attached survey will provide valuable information that demonstrates the State’s role as a purchaser of buy-recycled content products, and identifies opportunities to improve recycled-content purchasing programs.

How can I make it easier to complete the survey?

Work with your procurement officer to require vendors and/or contractors to label the amount of recycled and non-recycled content on their invoices and/or shipping documents in the units specified on the survey. To facilitate annual reporting, maintain a log book or spreadsheet throughout the year and require contractors to report annually on the amount of recycled and non-recycled content as part of their contract.

Questions? Please see back of this page for Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

If you have any additional questions regarding this survey or recycled-content products, please contact the Recycling Coordinator, Jennifer Tosaki at (808) 586-4226 or via email at Jennifer.Tosaki@doh.hawaii.gov

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Where Can I Get More Information and FAQs? See the websites and FAQs for clarification...

U.S. EPA's Web address for a complete list of CPG products and vendors is: <http://www.epa.gov/cpg/products.htm>.

U.S. EPA's Web address for EO 13101 is: <http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/documents/docback.htm>.

HRS' Web address is: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol02_ch0046-0115/hrs0103d/hrs_0103d-1005.htm.

DBEDTs Web address for the Hawaii Buy Recycled Guide is: <http://www.state.hi.us/dbedt/ert/chc/brg02.html>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1. If the federal money received by the State was not for the purchase of procuring designated items; is the State of Hawaii still required to purchase designated items?**

Yes. But, only when the federal money is being used to procure CPG-designated items and when the purchase is in excess of \$10,000.

- 2. If the State received only \$1000 in federal money; would the State of Hawaii be required to comply with the requirements of RCRA 6002?**

Yes. But, only when procuring more than \$10,000 of any of the CPG-designated items.

- 3. Do our contractors need to comply with RCRA 6002?**

Yes. When the State of Hawaii is procuring CPG-designated items from contractors. The amount purchased must also be in excess of \$10,000. If the CPG-designated item is incidental, not the major purpose of the contract, and not a direct result of the federal funds disbursement, then the requirements do not apply to the contractor.

Who should complete the survey?

Procurement officers or their staff, project managers, office managers and secretarial staff that order products which fall into the CPG-designated items categories, and construction managers and staff that oversee projects that receive federal funding and use products that fall into the CPG-designated items categories.

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